THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. INS Vikrant was decommissioned on 31st January, 1997 since it had completed its operational life cycle. Proposals for its replacement, either through imports or indigenous construction, are presently before the Government.

(c) to (e) A proposal was received to convert the decommissioned ship into a naval museum. Decision in this regard would depend, *inter alia*, on feasibility of such conversion.

Passport Office

214. SHRI K.S. RAYADU :
DR. M. JAGANNATH :
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hyderabad Passport Office received a record number of applications for issuance of passports during 1996;

(b) if so, whether according to the reports, Hyderabad had attained No. 1 position in the country among the passport offices with regard to input and output during the year;

(c) if so, whether the Government have also set-up a new passport office at Vishakhapatnam, Rayalaseema and Ananthapur to reduce the rush of people in Hyderabad passport office;

(d) whether in view of the great rush of people, Government propose to set up more passport offices in the State of Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the criteria that is being followed in setting up of a passport office and the total number of passport offices/ Regional passport offices functioning in the various States, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes Sir. The Passport Office, Hyderabad received 1,90,722 applications during the year 1996.

(b) No Sir. The Regional Passport office, Mumbai received the largest number of 2,22,007 applications in 1996.

(c) A new Passport Office has been opened at Vishakhapatnam and is already functioning. At present, it is not proposed to open new Passport Offices at Rayalaseema and Ananthapur.

(d) and (e) No Sir. Opening of new Passport Offices is decided on certain parameters, such as, area and population of the State, demand of passports, workload in neighboring passport offices, manpower and financial resources. Further, the Standing Committee of Parliament has recommended for new passport offices be opened only in areas with a minimum input of 50,000 applications for fresh passports in a year.

The statement showing state/union territory-wise break-up of passport offices is attached.

Statement

State/Union Territory-wise break-up of Passport Offices as on 19.2.1997

Andhra Pradesh	2
Assam	1
Bihar	1
Delhi	1
Goa	1
Gujarat	1
Jammu & Kashmir	1
Kerala	3
Karnataka	1
Maharashtra	3
Madhya Pradesh	1
Orissa	1
Punjab, Haryana & Chandigarh	2
Rajasthan	1
Tamil Nadu	2
West Bengal	1
U.P.	3
Total	26

World Bank Loan

215. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI :
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Governemnt have sought World Bank loan of Rs. 749.28 crores for implementation of the revised National Tuberculosis Control Prgramme for the next five years;

(b) if so, whether the Government have since received the amount from the World Bank;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of disbursement of the amount so far received from the World Bank to each State;

(e) the details of amount spent by the Government on TB central programme during the last three years and the results achieved; and

(f) the number of TB patients in the country during the last three years till date and the total number of them who died during the period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The development credit agreement is yet to be signed between the World Bank and Government of India.

(e) The amount spent by Central Government on the National Tuberculosis Control Programme during the last three years is as under :

Year	Expenditure (Rs. in crores)
1993-94	32.15
1994-95	41.19
1995-96	41.80

As a result of this programme, the number of new TB cases detected under the National Tuberculosis Control Programme during the last three years is as under :

Year	New TB cases detected
1993-94	13.58 lakhs
1994-95	12.49 lakhs
1995-96	13.89 lakhs
1996-97	5.77 lakhs (Prov.) (upto Dec. 96)

(f) It is estimated that there are 140 lakh TB cases in the country and 22 lakh new cases are added every year. It is also estimated that about 500,000 deaths of persons suffering from TB occur every-year.

[Translation]

ICDS

216. SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of share contributed by Union and State Governments in the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS);

(b) by which agency the expenditure being incurred on nutritional food;

(c) whether the Union Government shares some part of this expenditure being incurred on nutritional food;

(d) if not, whether the Union Government propose to share some of the expenditure being incurred on nutritional food under the above scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) The Union Government provides grant-in-aid to States for meeting full operational cost of an Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Project except the costs on account of supplementary nutrition, which is the responsibility of the States.

(b) The expenditure on nutritional food under the ICDS scheme is incurred by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No such decision has been taken by the Union Government till now.

(e) Question does not arise.

[English]

Formation of New Regiment

217. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the policy of the Government for the creation of any new regiment;

(b) whether there is any proposal for formation of Karnataka regiment; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the possible repercussion on other States ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (c) Government has received a proposal for formation of Karnataka Regiment. The matter is under consideration.

[Translation]

Expenditure on M.B.B.S. and M.D. Students

218. SHRI PAWAN DIWAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the total expenditure incurred by the Government on an M.B.B.S. and an M.D. student in Government colleges;

(b) the part of this expenditure recovered from the students;

(c) the number of doctors out of them, who have gone abroad during the last three years;

(d) whether the Government propose to lay down condition for the doctors, the graduate from the Government Medical colleges to work in rural and backward areas for a certain period; and